

ABSTRACT AMENDMENTS

Please amend the abstract as follows:

The invention relates to a method for improving the metal effects and further processing criteria as well as the flexibility of resin coated decorative papers. When printing metal effect inks by means of gravure printing, the application of solutions of alkaline metal salts delays hardening of the resin coated decorative papers, which is an improvement. A sodium aluminate solution ($\text{NaAlO}_2 \times 0.12\text{Na}_2\text{O} \times 0.3\text{H}_2\text{O}$) (water or water/extender mixture) is applied in a gravure press with a fond cylinder or another adequate method onto printed or non-printed standard base paper. The sodium aluminate is solved in $> 60^\circ\text{C}$ hot demineralised water (or water in general) in order to produce a mixture in the desired concentration. For treating resin coated decorative papers, a solution of sodium aluminate in deionized water is applied, during printing with metal effect inks by gravure printing by a fond or subcoat cylinder. The solution has a pH-value between pH 9 and pH 14.